

Sexual Assault Awareness Month 2006 Overview

Sexual Assault Prevention ...Begins With You

Introduction

The Department of Defense (DoD) Sexual Assault Prevention & Response Office (SAPRO) is pleased to offer this Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) Resource Packet to support your efforts to commemorate SAAM in April 2006. SAAM creates an opportunity to highlight the new DoD and Service policies addressing sexual assault prevention and response, and the important role the Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC) plays in education and training and managing victim support services. These materials are designed to build upon the national SAAM campaign, and to provide resources appropriate for military personnel.

Nationally, April is observed as SAAM as a way to raise awareness about and to promote prevention of sexual violence through special events and public education. This year the national SAAM slogan is *It's About Time to Prevent Sexual Violence*. Information on the national campaign is available through the National Sexual Violence Resource Center at www.nsvrc.org/saam. We encourage you to visit the site to learn more about successful SAAM activities in other communities, and to access tools to assist in your planning for SAAM.

2006 SAAM Theme

The DoD theme for 2006 SAAM is *Sexual Assault Prevention...Begins With You*. This theme is featured on the poster and artwork provided in the Resource Packet. The 2006 theme emphasizes the responsibility of every Service Member and those in leadership to prevent sexual assault by building a climate of respect in which sexual assault is not tolerated. Every SARC and every person involved

in responding to sexual assault, also plays a role in preventing sexual assault by creating a climate of confidence in which those who are victims of sexual assault receive the care and support that they deserve, and offenders are held accountable.

Resource Packet

Review the contents of the Resource Packet and note that it includes a poster and artwork that can be customized to include local information about the installation/command contacts for sexual assault response. Consider working with installation Victim Advocates and first responders to begin planning for any SAAM activities as soon as possible. If this is the first time that your installation has commemorated SAAM, think about what education and awareness steps are most important as the program is starting up, and plan to hold additional events in the future. Although these materials are targeted for SAAM, the sexual assault prevention and awareness activity suggestions in the Resource Packet can be used throughout the year.

Feedback

Your feedback on the 2006 SAAM resource packet is necessary to better understand your needs and develop future SAAM materials. We also want to collect creative ideas that may serve as models for other installations. Refer to the Feedback Form insert in this packet for instructions on submitting your feedback and ideas for future SAAM program ideas.

"The 2006 theme emphasizes the responsibility of every Service Member and those in leadership to prevent sexual assault..."

Resource Packet Contents

- ✓ An overview of the SAAM Resource Packet
- ✓ A summary of suggested SAAM activities
- ✓ A listing of helpful sexual assault resources
- ✓ A poster designed to be customized with local information
- ✓ A pamphlet with space to list a local program contact
- ✓ DoD's SAAM proclamation
- ✓ Sample event timelines
- ✓ Useful news clips



S A P R O

Sexual Assault Prevention & Response Office

www.sapr.mil